

1 COMM 2-5

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ATTN : Chief, St/I/RR
THRU : SA/Ch/G
Chief, D/GG

7 September 1960

Comments on FDD Foreign Press Bulletin

1. D/GG has been examining the FDD daily Foreign Press Bulletin for some time, with a view to evaluating the usefulness of the publication to this Division.

2. With respect to substantive content, we find that a fair proportion of the items included are of interest to D/GG. However, we feel that the publication is overly selective, perhaps due to the pressures of meeting a daily production schedule and perhaps due to the attempt to limit the content to items that "have not been reported on by other media." For example, we have been disappointed to find little or nothing on Soviet activities in the Polar Regions -- a subject of great interest to this Division. (In this connection, we wish to re-emphasize our request that the periodic summary report on Activities in the Arctic and Antarctic be continued by FDD or JPRS.)

3. With respect to periodicity, we feel that the attempt to achieve timeliness is commendable, but we doubt the wisdom or the necessity of attempting to maintain a daily schedule for a publication that consists almost entirely of items that are nearly a month old when translated.

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among others, are geared for daily production of truly current intelligence items, and we feel that timeliness of the type of information that has been appearing in the Foreign Press Bulletin, while desirable, is not an overriding consideration. For our purposes, the same items, grouped by area/subject, and issued in a weekly or bi-weekly periodic summary report, would still have adequate timeliness and would be much more conveniently usable.

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Distribution:

Orig. and 1 - Addressee
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RR/D/GG: :end

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